

7-7670

28 December 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE RECORD

At the Deputies' Meeting on 28 December 1955 it was agreed that the information contained in the attached memo would be dispatched to field stations [redacted] over the signature of the deputies concerned, with the provision that the deputies might make such changes as desirable without altering the meat of the message contained in this memo.

[redacted]

Executive Assistant
to the Director

STAT

JSE:ekt (28 Dec 55)
orig - Dep Mtg notes (ER file) ✓

MEMORANDUM: To be issued by ID/P, ID/I and ID/S to their respective overseas personnel

SUBJECT : Security

This letter is prompted by a recent serious security breach at an overseas station. One of our senior officers checked out of a hotel and left his luggage and a brief case containing classified cables, dispatches, and other documents concerning a covert project in the custody of a hotel employee. When the officer returned two hours later, he found his luggage but the brief case was missing. Obviously, the classified papers should not have been in the brief case in the first place, but for the officer to allow the brief case out of his possession at all under the circumstances was an error in judgment which it is feared will have far-reaching effects as far as this particular project is concerned. Any time any KIBAK personnel set in motion such ² chain of events ^{as} which may be reasonably calculated to result in a security breach, it reflects a serious lack of judgment on their part.

Although it is recognized that as professional intelligence officers you are thoroughly conversant with sound security practices, it is felt necessary to reiterate strongly the necessity for constant vigilance in the physical handling of classified material, particularly when it is moved outside of the normal office area.

Therefore, please review the security practices presently in force at your station and have another thorough look at whether or not all personnel under your jurisdiction are following the regulations and sound procedures thoughtfully and conscientiously. Do not fail to go over all relevant precautions even though many may appear too elementary to warrant repetition.

MEMORANDUM: To be issued by DD/P, DD/I and DD/S to their respective overseas personnel

SUBJECT : Security

This letter is prompted by a recent serious security breach at an overseas station. One of our senior officers checked out of a hotel and left his luggage and a brief case containing classified cables, dispatches, and other documents concerning a covert project in the custody of a hotel employee. When the officer returned two hours later, he found his luggage but the brief case was missing. Obviously, the classified papers should not have been in the brief case in the first place, but for the officer to allow the brief case out of his possession at all under the circumstances was an error in judgment which it is feared will have far-reaching effects as far as this particular project is concerned. Any time any KIBAK personnel set in motion such ^{as} chain of events ~~which~~ may be reasonably calculated to result in a security breach, it reflects a serious lack of judgment on their part.

Although it is recognized that as professional intelligence officers you are thoroughly conversant with sound security practices, it is felt necessary to reiterate strongly the necessity for constant vigilance in the physical handling of classified material, particularly when it is moved outside of the normal office area.

Therefore, please review the security practices presently in force at your station and have another thorough look at whether or not all personnel under your jurisdiction are following the regulations and sound procedures thoughtfully and conscientiously. Do not fail to go over all relevant precautions even though many may appear too elementary to warrant repetition.

SENDER WILL CHECK CLASSIFICATION
UNCLASSIFIED CONFIDENTIAL SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP

| TO | NAME AND ADDRESS | INITIALS | DATE |
|----|------------------|----------|-----------|
| 1 | Dir. of Security | | 19 Dec |
| 2 | DDCI | | STAT |
| 1 | DD/S Comm | | 19 Dec 55 |
| 4 | DDCI | | |
| 5 | | | |
| 6 | | | |

| | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ACTION | <input type="checkbox"/> DIRECT REPLY | <input type="checkbox"/> PREPARE REPLY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL | <input type="checkbox"/> DISPATCH | <input type="checkbox"/> RECOMMENDATION |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> FILE | <input type="checkbox"/> RETURN |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONCURRENCE | <input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION | <input type="checkbox"/> SIGNATURE |

Remarks:

Shiff - Dick Helms has approved this draft. may we have your CONC. so that we can forward to DDCI for release

STAT ☐ STAT

FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER

FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.

DATE

EO DDP

19 Dec

SECRET

(Draft) 33-384

Book Dispatch No. _____

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chiefs of Stations and Bases

SUBJECT: Security

[1. I have noted with increasing concern certain laxness in observing basic principles of security in the handling of classified documents] ^{2.} Although I recognize that as professional intelligence officers you are thoroughly conversant with sound security practices, I feel that I must raise again the necessity for constant vigilance in the physical handling of classified material, particularly when it is moved outside of the normal office area.

1. [2.] This letter ^{is} [was] prompted by my learning of a recent security breach at an overseas station. One of our senior officers checked out of a hotel and left his luggage and brief case containing classified cables, dispatches, and other documents concerning a [major] covert project in the custody of a hotel employee. When the officer returned two hours later, he found his luggage but the brief case was missing. Obviously, the classified papers should not have been in the brief case in the first place, but for the officer to allow the brief case out of his possession at all under the circumstances was an error in judgment which we fear may have far-reaching effects as far

as this particular project is concerned. ^{Obviously too, this officer should have been more experienced} better than to set in motion such a chain of events.

3. Please review the security practices presently in force at your Station and have another look at whether or not all personnel under your

jurisdiction are following the regulations thoughtfully and conscientiously. ^{No} not fail to go over all relevant precaution even though many may appear too elementary to warrant repetition.